Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 01360 031705Z

65

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W

R 031351Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9830

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: SCUL, BU

SUBJECT: EXHIBIT: PHOTOGRAPHY-USA

REFS: A) SOFIA 1347; B) SOFIA 1150 AND PREVIOUS

- 1. ON JULY 1, DAMYANOV OF THE MFA CULTURAL AND PRESS SECTION TOLD DCM THAT FIRM REPLY ON PHOTOGRAPHY-USA EXHIBIT WOULD NOT BE FORTH-COMING FOR ABOUT A MONTH. WHEN DCM REGISTERED SURPRISE DAMYANOV SAID HE WISHED TO BE VERY FRANK ABOUT SITUATION. SAID DCM AWARE THAT A PARTY CONGRESS WOULD BE HELD IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH BUT DATE STILL NOT SET. ADDED ALL AVAILABLE PUBLIC HALLS WOULD BE NEEDED IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONGRESS. THEREFORE COULD NOT AT THIS TIME SAY WHETHER SPACE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PHOTOGRAPHY-USA.
- 2. WHAT DAMYANOV DID NOT ADD IS THAT GOB CERTAIN NOT TO WANT AN IMPRESSIVE U.S. EXHIBIT IN SOFIA AT SAME TIME AS PARTY CONGRESS IS BEING HELD. WE THINK THAT IF CONGRESS DELAYED UNTIL MARCH (WE HAVE HEARD FEBRUARY) THERE IS GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT EXHIBIT WILL BE ACCEPTED. THIS POSSIBILITY WOULD BE IMPROVED IF EXHIBIT COULD BEGIN A LITTLE EARLIER THAN JANUARY 15. BUT IF CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN FEBRUARY THEN IT IS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL THAT EXHIBIT WILL BE ACCEPTED HERE DURING JANUARY 15 TO MARCH PERIOD AS ENVISAGED.
- 3. WE ARE PREPARED TO TAKE THIS MATTER TO HIGHER LEVEL IF BULGARIAN "FINAL" ANSWER NOT FORTHCOMING BY AUGUST 1. HOWEVER, SCHEDULING PROBLEM COULD BE GREATLY SIMPLIFIED IF WE COULD GO BACK TO ORIGINAL PROPOSAL FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 01360 031705Z

1975 SHOWING.

4. BROCHURE HAS BEEN TRANSLATED AND IS BEING POUCHED. HOWEVER,
POST CANNOT RECOMMEND THAT PRINTING BE STARTED PRIOR TO FINAL
GOB DECISION SINCE DOING SO MIGHT BE WASTE OF MONEY CONSIDERING
THE UNCERTAINTY INVOLVED.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: CULTURAL EXHIBITS, PHOTOGRAPHY

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